

## Indy Snow Force a Force to Be Reckoned With as February Brings Heaviest Snowfalls of the Season

With the city fast approaching record snowfalls for the month of February, Indy Snow Force has proven itself a force capable of keeping streets safe for motorist travel. The city's Snow Force has been put to the test several times this month, and has consistently met the challenge.

"Implementation of this season's snow plan clearly demonstrates our level of preparedness and the commitment of the men and women of Indy Snow Force," said DPW Director David Sherman.

In the month of February alone, three single-day snow fall records have been set. The first record was set on February 5<sup>th</sup> with 5.3 inches. A snow fall of 3.6 inches on February 9<sup>th</sup> established the second record. A third record was set on February 15<sup>th</sup> with snow accumulations of 6.3 inches. The Circle City's usual February snow fall averages slightly more than 6 inches. City residents have already seen total accumulations of 16.4 inches this month marking this the 8<sup>th</sup> snowiest February on record. The record for the most snow in February was set in 2003 with snow falls totaling 21.7 inches.

With 3 major events behind them, the men and women of Indy Snow Force have already begun preparing for more snow expected later this week. Attention is now turned to restocking the city's salt barns and prepping Snow Force and contract staff for what may lie ahead. Contract staff has been activated twice this month as a result of 6" snow falls and major drifts in residential areas.

In addition to adding 37 new snow trucks to the fleet in 2009 as part of several enhancements to the city's comprehensive snow plan, the city upgraded its contract fleet by 100% adding an additional 300 pieces of equipment to be utilized in residential snow removal during snow events of 6" or more.

Utilizing resources from all DPW divisions, including transportation, engineering and street maintenance, over 300 snow fighters have successfully worked to ensure safe travel for motorists throughout the month of February.

"Our mission is to keep streets safe for resident and commuter travel," said DPW Division Officer Jim Little. "That's exactly what we're going to do."

Visit <http://indysnowforce.com/> to hear a message from Mayor Greg Ballard regarding things we can all do to help ensure the safety of everyone in Indy during winter weather events.

Also, visit <http://indysnowforce.com/> to learn more about Indy Snow Force and Mayor Greg Ballard's commitment to keeping Indy's streets and roads clear of snow and ice and keeping Indy residents safe. Residents can view safe driving tips as well as a Defensive Driving in Winter Weather video online to help ensure a safer commute.

Call the Indy Snow Force Coldline; the city's hotline for up to date snow removal information at (317) 327-8000 for further updates or to report emergency snow or ice conditions.

Citizens with disabilities, or those who may need medical, or health related assistance such as transportation, or medication pick-up should please contact Connect 2 Help at 211, or 926 – HELP (926 – 4357). Residents may also visit [www.Connect2Help.org](http://www.Connect2Help.org) for more information.